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Economic and Social Council

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Commission on Population and Development
Thirty-eighth session
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Agenda item 6
Review of the methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development

Draft decision submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations

Methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development

The Commission on Population and Development,

Recalling resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, in which the General Assembly requested that each functional commission of the Economic and Social Council examine its methods of work in order to better pursue the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, and to report to the Council no later than 2005 on the results of its examination,

Recalling also decision 2004/2 of the Commission on Population and Development on its methods of work,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council decision 2005/213 of 31 March 2005 on the improvement of the work of the Commission on Population and Development,

Reaffirming that the General Assembly, through its role in policy formulation; the Economic and Social Council, through its role in overall guidance and coordination, in accordance with Assembly resolution 48/162; and the Commission on Population and Development constitute a three-tiered intergovernmental mechanism that plays the primary role in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, [1]

1. *Decides* that the regular geographic rotation of the chair of the Commission on Population and Development shall start with the election held at the thirty-ninth session of the Commission and that the order of rotation shall be as

[1] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

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follows: (a) African States; (b) Asian States; (c) Eastern European States; (d) Latin American and Caribbean States; and (e) Western European and other States;

2. *Reaffirms* the central role of the Commission on Population and Development in coordinating the review and assessment of the overall implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[1] and the outcome of the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly[2] at all levels;

3. *Reiterates* the need to conduct periodically comprehensive reviews and appraisals of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the key actions for its further implementation;[2]

4. *Reaffirms* the importance and utility of an ongoing exchange of views and information between the Commission and the Economic and Social Council, including by means of meetings of the Bureau of the Commission with the Bureau of the Economic and Social Council;

5. *Recalls* the role of the Bureau of the Commission in planning the Commission's annual session, and in making proposals for its programme of work;

6. *Welcomes* the format of inviting keynote speakers to the sessions of the Commission, and requests the Bureau of the Commission to make the necessary arrangements for their participation and to inform member States accordingly;

7. *Decides* to establish, at its thirty-ninth session, a multi-year programme of work for covering a series of general themes that will be based on the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and its implementation, and to determine, at that session, the duration of and themes for the programme of work;

8. *Decides also* that the Commission, at its thirty-ninth session, will further consider its methods of work, and that such consideration will include the nature of the outcomes of the Commission, the inclusion of new or emerging issues on its agenda, the organization of the multi-year programme of work and its possible organization into a series of two-year cycles, and the contribution of the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, as well as other possible measures to revitalize the work of the Commission, and requests the Bureau to seek the views of member States thereon;

9. *Further decides* that, in the examination of its themes, the Commission should promote increased sharing of national, regional and international experiences, such as best practices and lessons learned, through focused and interactive dialogues among experts and practitioners with the participation of keynote speakers and civil society representatives, including non-governmental organizations, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council;

10. *Stresses* the importance of making written reports of the meetings of the Bureau available at the earliest possibly opportunity after these meetings or, in any case, within four weeks of the end of the meeting;

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[2] General Assembly resolution S-21/2, annex.

11. *Encourages* the regional commissions to plan their activities with a view to contributing to the current work of the Commission and in so doing, to collaborate, as appropriate, with other regional or subregional intergovernmental organizations as well as with offices, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system.